equal to the actual average loan loss rate during the preceding five-year period. The appropriate Office of Capital Access official in accordance with Delegations of Authority cannot reduce the LLRF to less than ten percent of the Portfolio.

- (e) What must an intermediary demonstrate to get a reduction in Loan Loss Reserve Fund? To receive a reduction in its LLRF, an Intermediary must:
- (1) Have satisfactory SBA performance, as determined by SBA in its discretion. The Intermediary's Risk Rating, among other factors, will be considered in determining satisfactory SBA performance. Other factors may include, but are not limited to, on-site review/examination assessments, historical performance measures (like default rate, purchase rate and loss rate), loan volume to the extent that it impacts performance measures, and other performance related measurements and information (such as contribution toward SBA mission); and
- (2) No other factors exist that may impair the Intermediary's ability to repay all obligations which it owes to the SBA under the Microloan program.

[61 FR 3235, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 17439, Apr. 3, 2000; 73 FR 75517, Dec. 11, 2008]

§ 120.711 What rules govern Intermediaries?

Intermediaries must operate in accordance with applicable statutes, regulations, policy notices, SBA's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and the information in the application.

§120.712 How does an Intermediary get a grant to assist Microloan borrowers?

- (a) General. An Intermediary is eligible to receive grant funding from SBA of not more than 25 percent of the outstanding balance of all SBA loans to the Intermediary. The Intermediary must contribute, solely from non-Federal sources, an amount equal to 25 percent of the grant. Contributions may be made in cash or in kind.
- (b) Limitations on grant funds. An Intermediary may not borrow its contribution. It may only use grant funds to provide Microloan borrowers with

marketing, management, and technical assistance, except that:

- (1) Up to 25 percent of the grant funds may be used to provide information and technical assistance to prospective Microloan borrowers; and
- (2) Grant monies may be used to attend training required by SBA.
- (c) Exception to contribution requirement. Intermediaries which make at least 50 percent of their loans to small businesses located in or owned by residents of Economically Distressed Areas are not subject to the contribution requirement in paragraph (a) of this section.
- (d) Intermediaries eligible to receive additional grant monies. An Intermediary may receive an additional SBA grant equal to five percent of the outstanding balance of all loans received from SBA (with no obligation to contribute additional matching funds) if:
- (1) The Intermediary makes at least 25 percent of its loans to small businesses located in or owned by residents of an Economically Distressed Area; or
- (2) The Intermediary is a Specialized Intermediary.
- (e) Third party contracts for technical assistance. An Intermediary may use no more than 25 percent of the grant funds it receives from SBA for contracts with third parties for the latter to provide technical assistance to Microloan borrowers.

[61 FR 3235, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 66 FR 47073, Sept. 11, 2001; 76 FR 63547, Oct. 12, 2011]

§120.713 Does SBA provide technical assistance to Intermediaries?

SBA may procure technical assistance for an Intermediary to improve its knowledge, skill, and understanding of microlending by awarding a grant to a more experienced Intermediary. SBA may also obtain such assistance for prospective Intermediaries in areas of the country that are either not served or underserved by an existing Intermediary.

§ 120.714 How are grants made to nonlending technical assistance providers (NTAP)?

SBA selects non-lending technical assistance providers (NTAP) to receive